

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of processing data within a teletext sequence, comprising:
  - (a) determining a phase of a run-in burst within the teletext sequence;
  - (b) identifying a location of a framing code within the teletext sequence; and
  - (c) validating the teletext sequence.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - (d) decoding the teletext sequence.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) comprises correlating the teletext signal with a sine wave of an expected teletext clock frequency, wherein zero crossing points of a correlation output signal are used to determine the phase of the run-in burst.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the correlating comprises using a correlator function,
$$\text{Corr}(nT) = \sum (\text{In}((n+i)*T) * \text{Cos}(nT)),$$
wherein  $i = \pm\Delta$ ,  
wherein  $\text{Corr}(nT)$  is an output sample of a correlator,  
wherein  $\text{In}(nT)$  is an actual sample of the teletext sequence,  
wherein  $\text{Cos}(nT)$  is a sample of the sine wave, and  
wherein  $\Delta$  is a range of the correlation.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) further comprises:
  - (i) using a sliding window mask to search teletext data for a match with a predefined framing code value and to identify a framing code detection location;
  - (ii) calculating a delay from a H-SYNC signal to the framing code detection location;  
and
  - (iii) comparing the delay determined in step (ii) with delays calculated during previous framing code acquisition cycles.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising declaring the framing code valid when the delay determined in step (ii) is within a predefined time from an averaged position of previous framing codes.
7. The method of claim 5, further comprising declaring the framing code invalid when the delay determined in step (ii) is not within a predefined time from an averaged position of previous framing codes.
8. The method of claim 1, further comprising outputting the decoded teletext sequence to a set-top box.
9. The method of claim 1, further comprising outputting the decoded teletext sequence to a television.
10. A system for processing teletext message sequences, comprising:
  - a correlator coupled to an input;
  - a sine wave generator coupled to said correlator;
  - a first time window generator coupled to an H-SYNC input;
  - a phase detector coupled to outputs of said correlator and said first time window generator;
  - a second time window generator coupled to said H-SYNC input; and
  - a framing code search engine coupled to outputs of said phase detector and said second time window generator.
11. The system of claim 10, further comprising:
  - a matched filter coupled to an output of said framing code search engine.